

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A piezoelectric actuator for an ink jet printhead, including:

- a block body of piezoelectric material having a bottom face through which the
5 mechanical energy of the actuator is transferred to a receiving member, said body
 having an active portion adjacent to the bottom face as well as an inactive portion;
- a layered structure of alternating signal electrodes and common electrodes arranged
 in the active portion substantially in parallel with the bottom face and separated by
 layers of the piezoelectric material;
- 10 - a layered structure of alternating auxiliary electrodes and common electrodes
 arranged in the inactive portion, substantially in parallel with the bottom face and
 separated by layers of the piezoelectric material;
- at least one signal lead electrode formed on a first side face of said block body of
 piezoelectric material and interconnecting the signal electrodes;
- 15 - a ground lead electrode formed on a second side face opposite to the first side face
 and interconnecting the common electrodes;
- and an auxiliary lead electrode interconnecting the auxiliary electrodes, wherein
 the auxiliary lead electrode is formed on a third side face of the block body.